

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 ISO-00 SAM-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCCT-01 SY-05

AID-05 IO-10 /093 W

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R 281338Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2295

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL AND ELECTORAL ROUNDUP

1. CUNHAL SPEECH AT PCP RALLY:

AT MARCH 27 LISBON RALLY PCP LEADER ALVARO CUNHAL GAVE  
OPTIMISTIC ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION. FOR  
FIRST TIME, ACCORDING TO CUNHAL, IT IS POSSIBLE TO STATE WITH  
ASSURANCE THAT IT IS WITHIN PORTUGUESE PEOPLE'S REACH TO  
INSTALL A REGIME IN NEAR FUTURE WHICH IS DEMOCRATIC AND ON  
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ROAD TO SOCIALISM. MARCH 11 COUP AFTERMATH HAS BROUGHT ABOUT

MAJOR DEMOCRATIC ADVANCES IN ECONOMIC SPERE. MARCH 11 ALSO SERVED TO VINDICATE PCP'S WARNINGS THAT REACTIONARY COUP WAS IN OFFING. PARTIES WHICH HAVE BEEN CRITICIZING PCP SHOULD ENGAGE IN SELF-CRITICISM INSTEAD OF HELPING PREPARE OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS WHICH MADE COUP ATTEMPT POSSIBLE. CUNHAL ALSO ATTRIBUTED RESPONSIBILITY FOR MARCH 11 COUP'S PREPARATION TO THE ABSENCE IN PORTUGAL OF INVESTIGATORY ORGANIZATION WHICH COULD DETECT COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY CONSPIRACIES.

2. COMMUNISTS STEP UP ATTACKS ON PS, PPD:

COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE AGAINST PPD IS CONTINUING, WITH OBJECTIONS BEING VOICED BY LOCAL PCP ORGANIZATIONS AND BY NATIONAL PARTY FUNCTIONARIES TO PPD'S CONTINUATION IN GOVERNMENT COALITION. COMMUNIST DOMINATED PRESS IS GIVING CHOICE SPACE TO ARTICLES ON ALLEGED PHYSICAL ATTACKS ON PCP MEMBERS, FOR WHICH RESPONSIBILITY IS ATTRIBUTED TO PPD. CRITICISM OF SOCIALISTS, FOR THE MOMENT, IS SLIGHTLY LESS INTENSE. PCP OFFICIAL LINE REMAINS THAT OF SEEKING TO WORK COOPERATIVELY WITH PS, DESPITE THAT PARTY'S ROLE IN FUELING THE FIRES OF ANTI-COMMUNISM. PCP IS LEAVING DIRECT ATTACKS ON SOCIALISTS TO FOREIGN COMMUNIST SOURCES AND, INTERNALLY, TO COMMUNIST-LINING GROUPS. MARCH 28 PRESS REPORTS ON HARSH ATTACKS AGAINST PS LEADERS MARIO SOARES AND SALGADA ZENHA IN EAST GERMAN ORGAN "NEUES DEUTSCHLAND." IN MARCH 25 PRESS CONFERENCE COMMUNIST-LINING MES CONDEMNED PS AND PPD FOR HAVING CREATED THE CONDITIONS (AND CONTINUING TO CREATE CONDITIONS) FOR COUNTERREVOLUTIONARY COUPS LIKE THAT OF MARCH 11.

3. SOARES WARNS ON PORTUGUESE LIBERTIES:

VIA INTERVIEW IN FRENCH SOCIALIST WEEKLY "L'UNITE," SOCIALIST (PS) LEADER MARIO SOARES WARNED THAT RESTRICTIONS PLACED ON PORTUGUESE LIBERTIES WOULD RESULT IN IMPEDING "THE REVOLUTIONARY EVOLUTION OF THIS COUNTRY." PORTUGAL WOULD THEN PASS FROM MONOPOLIST CAPITALISM TO STATIST CAPITALISM. "AN EVOLUTION OF THIS TYPE WOULD CREATE THE GRAVEST DIFFICULTIES FOR THE EUROPEAN LEFT." SOARES REFERRED TO RECENT STATEMENT BY PCP LEADER CUNHAL THAT BOURGEOIS DEMOCRACY IN PORTUGAL NOT POSSIBLE AND ASKED RHETORICALLY IF PCP'S INTENTION IS TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INSTALL PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY. THE PS, SOARES WARNED, WILL NOT ACCEPT THIS PROSPECT.

4. SANCHES OSORIO'S WHEREABOUTS

MARCH 28 ISSUE OF MORNING "SECULO" CARRIES ARTICLE ON REPORTS CIRCULATING THAT FORMER SPINOLIST MASS COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER MAJOR SANCHES OSORIO HAS TAKEN REFUGE IN BRAZIL. SECULO ARTICLE COMES IN WAKE OF OTHER REPORTS, APPEARING IN PRESS OR GIVEN IN

CONFIDENCE TO EMBASSY, THAT SANCHES OSORIO IS IN ENGLAND, SPAIN, OR HIDING IN PORTUGAL. TWO WEEKS PAST MARCH 11 COUP ATTEMPT, HOWEVER, ONLY FACTUALLY TRUE STATEMENT THAT CAN BE MADE ABOUT WHEREABOUTS OF SECRETARY-GENERAL OF SUSPENDED CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PDC) IS THAT HE HAS NOT SURFACED PUBLICLY. PDC LEADERS HAVE HAD NO CONTACT WITH HIM SINCE DAY PRECEDING COUP.

5. CDS FILLS CANDIDATE VACANCIES:

THE CDS HAS MANAGED TO FIND 88 NEW CANDIDATES TO FILL THE VACANCIES LEFT IN ITS ELECTORAL LISTS BY THE SUSPENSION OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS FROM THE ELECTIONS. THE CDS THEREFORE WILL BE COMPETING IN ALL 22 ELECTORAL DISTRICTS ALONG WITH THE PPD, PCP, SOCIALISTS, AND THE MDP/CDE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, SPEECHES, POLITICAL PARTIES, COMMUNISTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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